

Cumberland Town Lands and Conservation Commission

Date: October 9, 2015 (* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Town Mgr.) Bill Shane++
To: CTL&CC members: Tom Gruber + (abs) Susan Nolde (abs)
Peter Bingham+ Brad Hilton *Sam York
Ted Chadbourne Ellen Hoffman David Young

From: Ellen Hoffman
Re: Meeting October 7th, 2015

- Minutes from September meeting were approved as written.
- Town Forest:
 - Joe Anderson was in attendance to discuss ideas on how to treat the buckthorn. Discussed several approaches: having someone like Mike Morrison (owner of Swamp Inc. out of NH) do a mechanical treatment and then come back the following year and spray the sprouts. Mr. Morrison has worked with other municipalities. Talked about the forest in sections. Problem of using a commercial sprayer is that it is hard to be selective.
 - Idea of treating only so many feet to the side of the trail as well as open up around certain key areas.
 - Brad suggested applying an herbicide like Round-up on the areas that have been cut the past 2 seasons. The sprouting buckthorn in these areas is now 4-8 feet tall. Brad is concerned that if we wait too much longer, the spraying will be ineffective. This should be #1 priority. We have about a 2 week window after Oct. 24th (the site walk). Should be done by Nov 4th.
- Issues:
 - Joe will help coordinate – spraying. He will contact different foresters for price and availability
 - Wait until summer to do mechanical
- Ellen commented that there needs to be better signage when you exit the Town Forest by the Village Green onto the road. There currently is a new sign at the top of the hill by the parking lot, but from where you exit onto the street, you cannot see that sign. Suggestions of using the same blue trail markers with arrows pointing up the hill. Then from the sign at the top of hill, place another blue marker indicating the entrance to the trail behind the ball field.
- The benches are still a work in progress. Yarmouth Rotary Club was notified that we are interested in 4 cedar benches with backs. Waiting on pricing. Once we have the benches in place the Town will do some sort of presentation thanking the Yarmouth Rotary Club. Maybe put some sort of addendum on the kiosk sign. There will not be plaques on the back of the benches.
- Grand unveiling October 24th 2:30 (meet at kiosk). Ellen and Bill finished up flier and slide for Channel 2. Rain date Sunday 25th. Town will supply cider and donuts. Few speakers. Bill will bring some applications for prospective

members. Also mention that upcoming similar projects – Greely Forest and Range Way trail.

- To do:
 - Rip-rap needs to be put around culverts
 - Mulch needed on sides of trail
 - Canal needs to be dredged
 - Still some clean-up work needs to be done in cut areas
 - Need to walk trail with GPS and update the map at both kiosks. Bill and Brad will work on this as well as what to do about info signs.
 - Maybe see if Alpha 1 is interested in giving us feedback for wheelchair or access to limited mobility individuals.
 - Think about how to do info signs along trail. Bill will have public works make them.
 - Look into new or refurbishing Town Forest sign by Town Hall
 - Update to Maine Trail Finders and other websites where the Town Forest trail is mentioned.
 - Need better visibility of town trails on website.
 - Poop bag dispensary by both trail entrances.
- Grant for invasive plant education, control and eradication. Sue – no update
- Greely Woods – no update
- Town owned properties on Range Way – link to Rock Ridge. Ellen reviewed Brad's letter and survey (to gauge neighbor's interest) and sent changes to Bill. Ellen will send an updated version to members to review.
- Rines Forest – no update
- Vernal pools – no update
- Knight's Pond - Public walks led by Cumberland Maine and Island Trust Saturday Oct 24th (in the morning) to showcase the newly acquired property.
- Ideas/ Project 2015
 - Town Forest – see above
 - Arbor Day and tree giveaway – next year
 - Cumberland Circle trail - Need to map with town's GPS
 - Update the trail guide – online
- **Next meeting November 4th 7pm**